

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

MEMORANDUM FOR: Major General Wilton B. Persons

The Deputy Assistant to the President

The White House Washington, D.C.

This is in reply to your memorandum of 22 June concerning the exchange of correspondence between the President and Congressman Peter Frelinghuysen.

We have examined with great interest this correspondence, as well as the Bill introduced by Congressian Frelinghaysen and the remarks made in the House by the Congressman on the occasion of introducing his Bill. Congressman Frelinghuysey proposes the creation of a nine-man Presidential Commission, five members of which will be appointed by the President who shall designate the chairman and four members to be appointed from the congress, two from the Senate and two from the House. You will also recall that during the present session of the Congress several Bills have been introduced for the creation of a joint committee on Intelligence similar to the Atomic Energy Committee.

It appears to me that if the President believes that an examination should be made of the Central Intelligence Agency and the other Intelligence organizations of the government, that there is a currently existing body, properly constituted to accomplish that task. This is the "Commission on Organization of the Executive Branch of the Government," under the chairmanship of the Honorable Herbert Hower. You will recall that this Commission not only includes permanent members selected from public life, but also includes members of the Congress. Congressman Frelinghuysen in his Bill suggests that special attention be given to such matters as overlap and duplication of effort between Intelligence agencies, whether these agencies are understaffed or overstaffed, whether their work is efficient, and whether any of their activities are in conflict with foreign policy administration. All of these matters seem very definitely to come within the purview of the Hoover Commission. It would seem to me to be unnecessary duplication to create another Commission with this body already in existence.

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With the above thoughts in mind, I have taken the liberty of drafting a letter for the President to send to Mr. Hoover suggesting that his Commission specifically undertake an examination of the Intelligence efforts of the government.

ALLEN W. DULLES
Director

Enclosure

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